

London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham
**Community Safety and
Environment Policy and
Accountability
Committee
Minutes**



Monday 10 February 2020

PRESENT

Committee members: Councillors Bora Kwon (Chair), Iain Cassidy, David Morton, Ann Rosenberg and Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler

Other Councillors: Councillors Ben Coleman (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care), Wesley Harcourt (Cabinet Member for the Environment), Larry Culhane (Cabinet Member for Children and Education), Matt Uberoi, Matt Thorley, Frances Stainton, and Sue Fennimore (Deputy Leader)

Officers: Sharon Lea (Strategic Director for the Environment), Masum Choudhury (Head of Transport Policy), Bram Kainth (Chief Officer – Public Realm), David Abbott (Scrutiny Manager)

There were around 70 residents in attendance.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. HARWOOD TERRACE CLOSURE

Councillor Ben Coleman (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care) introduced the item and discussed the reasons for holding a public meeting on the closure of Harwood Terrace. He recognised there were strong feelings from residents on this issue and said the Council wanted to listen and understand how residents were being affected and hoped that the Council could work together with residents on a solution.

Masum Choudhury (Head of Transport Policy) gave a presentation setting out the context for the Harwood Terrace experimental closure, the reasons for the

closure, and the data that informed the decision. Residents asked that the slides be shared after the meeting.

ACTION: David Abbott

NOTE: The slides are available on the Council's website: [Harwood Terrace presentation](#)

Residents challenged the quality of some of the data in the presentation and requested:

- Comparable data from before the closure to benchmark against.
- The figures for all surrounding streets.
- A list of local roads that had traffic surveys and the traffic survey data.
- Any environmental studies that had been done on the impact of the closure on surrounding streets. Though Masum Choudhury noted that no air quality or environmental studies had been commissioned.

ACTION: Masum Choudhury

Masum Choudhury continued with the presentation and went through a number of potential options that would help resolve the issues felt by residents. These were split into 'area-based options' and 'micro options'. It was noted that these were not the only options available and were intended to stimulate discussion.

The **area-based options** were:

- Area-Based Option 1 – Harwood Terrace remained closed but further mitigations were put in place including preventing right turns from Wandsworth Bridge Road northbound into Cresford Road, Bovingdon Road, Sandilands Road, Broughton Road Approach, Rosebury Road, and Stephendale Road – and no left turns from Townmead Road into Bagleys Lane.
- Area-Based Option 2 – Reopen Harwood Terrace but put in measures to reduce traffic in surrounding streets used to access Harwood terrace (e.g. make accessible to residents only).

The **micro options** were:

- Micro Option 1 - Harwood Terrace remained closed with mitigation measures to reduce traffic queuing at traffic signals.
- Micro Option 2 – Reopen Harwood Terrace with restrictions (e.g. one-way, restrict to peak times).
- Micro Option 3 – Reopen Harwood Terrace and revisit after the Gas Works development access road opens.

Officers noted that all of the options presented had challenges associated with them.

A number of residents wanted the Council to take a broader, more 'holistic' look at the issue of traffic in the borough. Residents made the point that making decisions about individual roads in isolation would inevitably have knock-on effects on neighbouring roads. Some residents felt there needed to be a clear overall direction set by the Council – did the Council want to stop cars using the borough as a cut-through to other parts of London entirely? Or did the Council want cars to be able to move through the borough as quickly as possible? What were the long-term goals?

Residents suggested a number of potential solutions:

- Opening Chelsea Harbour to local residents.
- Opening the Imperial Wharf barrier.
- Building a new road as part of the new Gas Works development, going from Imperial around the back by the Rose pub (it was noted that this was already happening with Michael Road).
- Having special permits and a technology solution that only allowed residents into certain roads.
- Making Harwood Terrace a one-way road.
- Re-routing the Number 11 bus along Fulham Road, preventing it blocking traffic when turning right at the junction New Kings Road.

Councillor Ben Coleman suggested that an intervention from Greg Hands MP, Member for Chelsea and Fulham, would be required to support the route through Chelsea Harbour.

Councillor Ben Coleman proposed that residents formed a working group to work with the Council to come up with an initial solution by the next Cabinet meeting in March. This was agreed and several residents volunteered for the group. Officers would contact potential working-group members shortly after the meeting to progress the working groups.

ACTION: Sharon Lea

Meeting started: 7.00 pm
Meeting ended: 9.45 pm

Chair

Contact officer: David Abbott
Scrutiny Manager
Governance and Scrutiny
☎: 07776 672877
E-mail: david.abbott@lbhf.gov.uk